DEC 1 0 2004 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

S/N 09/031.326

Joseph J. Karniewicz

Examiner: Phan, T.

Serial No.:

09/031,326

Group Art Unit: 2128

Filed:

February 26, 1998

Docket: 303.376US1

Title:

PARAMETER POPULATION OF CELLS OF A HIERARCHICAL

SEMICONDUCTOR STRUCTURE VIA FILE RELATION

## **RESPONSE TO ADVISORY ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

This paper is in response to the Advisory Action mailed 22 November 2004. The Advisory Action in part 2 (b) states that the prior response raises new matter. Applicant respectfully traverses this assertion. The prior response is supported by the application as filed. Applicant requests withdrawal of this assertion and clarification of the record.

It is noted that the Advisory Action goes on to state that the "Applicant's argument . . . would raise new issues of new matters that would require further considerations and searches." However, new issues and new matter are different concepts. Clarification of this statement is requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 349-9587 to facilitate prosecution of this application. If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,
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